

January 29, 2003

To: Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
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From: David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2003 Appropriations

Last week, the Senate passed an omnibus Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2003 appropriations bill (H.J. Res. 2), which would fund all domestic Federal programs. Congress has enacted only two of the 13 FFY 2003 appropriations bills (Defense and Military Construction). H.J. Res. 2 appropriates a total of \$391 billion in FFY 2003 funds. Passed by a vote of 69-29, the bill includes a 2.9 percent across-the board cut in order to pay for Senate floor amendments to add funding for some programs, such as drought relief, education, and election reform. This across-the-board cut was needed to keep overall FFY 2003 discretionary spending, including defense, close to the \$755 billion level urged by the Administration.

The House has not passed a comparable omnibus FFY 2003 appropriations bill, and the House-passed version of H.J. Res. 2 is a simple continuing appropriations bill. The Congressional Republican leadership is using H.J. Res. 2 as the legislative vehicle for funding all remaining 11 FFY 2003 appropriations bills. House and Senate conferees will begin meeting later this week on an omnibus appropriations bill, but those negotiations most likely will not be completed before the President releases his proposed FFY 2004 budget on February 3, 2003. It is expected that the 2.9 percent across-the-board cut in the Senate version will be abandoned or scaled back.

Funding provisions of County interest in H.R. Res. 2, as passed by the Senate, are summarized below:

State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP): There is no funding for SCAAP, consistent with the President's proposed FFY 2003 budget. However, in a Senate floor colloquy on SCAAP funding among Senators Feinstein, Kyl (R-AZ), Schumer (D-NY), Gregg (R-NH), Hollings (D-SC), and Senator Gregg, who chairs the Commerce-Justice-State (CJS) Appropriations Subcommittee, stated: "Knowing of the great need for adequate funding for SCAAP, I assure the Senators that I will make it a high priority during the conference between the House and Senate." H.R. 247, an FFY 2003 CJS appropriations bill introduced by Representative Wolf (R-VA), who chairs the House CJS Appropriations Subcommittee, includes \$500 million for SCAAP, which is \$65 million below the FFY 2003 level. County Washington Advocate Franklin Logan is working with the heads of the California Congressional delegation on a letter to conferees stressing the importance of SCAAP funding.

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Extension: Includes language to extend the TANF and Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) programs through September 30, 2003. Congress will be considering multi-year TANF and CCDBG reauthorization legislation this year.

Election Reform: Includes \$1.5 billion to help state and local governments to update their voting equipment and to implement other election reforms authorized under the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-252).

Bioterrorism and Hospital Preparedness: Includes \$940 million in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to upgrade state and local public health capacity, the same level as in FFY 2002. The bill also includes \$547 million for the Health Resources and Services Administration for bioterrorism of which \$492 million is for hospital preparedness. This represents a \$357 million increase above the FFY 2002 level.

Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG): Includes \$400 million for FFY 2003, which is the same funding level as in FFY 2002.

Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS): Includes \$1.12 billion for FFY 2003, compared to \$1.05 billion in FFY 2002.

Byrne Formula Grants: There is no funding for Byrne formula grants to states for law enforcement activities, compared to \$500 million in FFY 2002.

Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP): Includes \$2 billion for ODP programs, including \$1.04 billion in equipment grants to states to help states and localities respond

to terrorist attacks, \$503 million for training, and \$272 million to help states and localities plan and conduct weapons of mass destruction exercises.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG): Includes \$5 billion for overall CDBG funding in FFY 2003, which is the same funding level as in FFY 2002.

Homeless Assistance Grants: Includes \$1.21 billion for homeless assistance in FFY 2003, a \$92.5 million increase above the FFY 2002 level. The bill includes \$193 million for Shelter Care Plus renewals, which help serve chronically homeless persons who are disabled.

HOME Investment Partnership Program: Includes \$1.95 billion for HOME in FFY 2003, a \$104 million increase above the FFY 2002 level.

Social Services Block Grant (SSBG): Includes \$1.7 billion for SSBG, the same funding level as in FFY 2002.

Promoting Safe and Stable Families: Increases funding for Promoting Safe and Stable Families which funds family preservation and other services aimed at preventing family crises that would require a child's removal from his or her home, by \$130 million to \$505 million in FFY 2003.

Workforce Investment Act (WIA): Includes \$900 million in FFY 2003 WIA Adult Grants, \$50 billion below the FFY 2002 level. The bill also reduces WIA Youth Grants by \$127 million to \$1.1 billion in FFY 2003, and reduces Dislocated Worker Formula Grants by about \$22 million to \$1.1 billion.

Older Americans Act (OAA): Increases funding for OAA programs by \$20 million to \$1,369 million, including a \$15 million increase in the Family Caregiver Support program.

Land and Water Conservation Fund: Reduces funding for grants to states and localities for the acquisition and development of parks and open space from \$140 million in FFY 2002 to \$111 million in FFY 2003.

Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) Program: Reduces UPARR funding from \$30 million in FFY 2002 to \$10 million in FFY 2003.

Army Corps of Engineers Projects in Los Angeles County: Includes funding for the following Army Corps projects in the County: Ballona Creek Ecosystem Restoration Study (\$150,000); California Coastal Sediment Study (\$100,000); Coast of California Study

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(\$400,000); Regional Dredged Material Management Plan (\$300,000); Marina del Rey and Ballona Creek Study (\$250,000); Los Angeles County Drainage Area Operations and Maintenance (\$7,584,000); and Marina del Rey Annual Hydrologic Survey (\$60,000).

Homeland Security

Last week, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) was officially established, and Governor Tom Ridge was sworn in as its first Secretary. The Department is in the process of getting organized. Many of the 22 agencies and 170,000 Federal employees will be formally transferred to DHS on March 1, 2003. Those agencies will include the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Coast Guard, and the Transportation Security Administration.

Earlier in the week, Washington Advocates Reggie Todd, Tom Joseph and Franklin Logan attended a National Association of Counties (NACo) Homeland Security Task Force meeting where they met a number of the Administration officials who will assume key positions in the new Department. Supervisor Don Knabe also was in Washington, D.C. to attend a meeting of the State and Local Officials Senior Advisory Committee to the President's Homeland Security Advisory Council. Supervisor Knabe is one of eight state and local elected officials who advise the White House on homeland security matters.

County Visit by NACo President

On January 30, NACo President Ken Mayfield will be in the County to tour the Twin Towers jail and "The Village," a mental health service provider based in Long Beach. Mayfield, a county commissioner from Dallas County, Texas, is interested in efforts to serve persons with mental illness, including diverting them from jail. He will be joined by Yellowstone County Commissioner Bill Kennedy who chairs NACo's Health Committee and Ramsey County Commissioner Tony Bennett, who chairs the Justice and Public Safety Committee.

We will continue to keep you advised of any new developments.

DEJ:GK
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c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist